



DSI

DACCO SCI, INC.

CORROSION ENGINEERING-MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY-ELECTROCHEMISTRY

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USPTO
PATENTS ACCOUNTING
DIVISION
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March 29, 2011

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
ATTENTION: Office of Petitions
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RE: PETITION FOR REINSTATEMENT OF PATENT FOR UNAVOIDABLE
DELAY (37 C.F.R. § 1.378 (b))**

(Patent No. 6054038/Application No. 09093001 – *Portable, Hand-Held, In-Situ
Electrochemical Sensor for Evaluating Corrosion*)

Dear Commissioner for Patents:

Pursuant to Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.378(b), I hereby petition for reinstatement of the aforementioned patent, based upon a delay that was, consistent with this Section, unavoidable. Consistent with our small business' current practice and the patentee/assignee's patent docketing system (DACCO SCI, INC. is the Assignee for five (5) U.S. patents):

- Reasonable Care was taken to ensure that the maintenance fee would be paid in a timely manner; and
- This petition for reinstatement of the aforementioned patent was filed promptly, after DACCO SCI, INC. became aware of the expiration of the patent on March 25, 2011. Our current patent docketing system is fully automated, but oversight of that system is proffered by an Office Administrator. In the instant case, the former Office Administrator who was then charged with providing that requisite oversight of the docketing system and who would have received any and all maintenance fee reminders, on behalf of the Assignee – was terminated for cause, during the period that the aforementioned patent was to expire (April, 2008). Moreover, subsequent reviews of the docketing system by our Firm's current Office Administrator did not disclose the maintenance fee expiration, due to improper entries previously made by the former Office Administrator.

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Letter to the Patent Commissioner

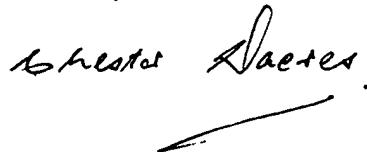
March 29, 2011

In the process of a self-imposed audit of our records this month (March, 2011) and conducted by BCMG, the expiration of this patent was then discovered. Since that explicit recognition of the patent's expiration, we filed this reinstatement petition.

Consistent with 37 C.F.R. § 1.378(b), we hereby submit the delayed payment of the maintenance fee of \$ 1940.00 (\$1240.00 under § 1.20(f) + \$ 700.00 under §1.20(i)(1)).

Should you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 410.381.9475.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chester Dacres". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Chester M. Dacres, Ph.D., P.E.
President